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PATENT  
1377-156P

A

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MCCARTHY et al.  
Int'l. Appl. No.: PCT/IE98/00030  
Appl. No.: New Group:  
Filed: October 20, 2000 Examiner:  
For: A METHOD FOR THE CHARACTERISATION  
OF NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES INVOLVING  
GENERATION OF EXTENDIBLE UPSTREAM  
DNA FRAGMENTS RESULTING FROM THE  
CLEAVAGE OF NUCLEIC ACID AT AN  
ABASIC SITE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

October 20, 2000

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendments and Remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

A,  
Before line 1, insert --This application is the national phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/IE98/00030 which has an International filing date of April 22, 1998, which designated the United States of America.--